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Countries of the Mind

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Canals

Canals,
whether Suez or alimentary,
are maps
of our finiteness.

From birth's
bloody canal to light,
through death's tunnel,
some say, to another light.

Even mind,
that free-roving bird
of myth, so idolized by
the cult-makers of symbol,

has its canals,
with estuaries to insight
or Skinner boxes of madness,
depending on the current

of tide
that flows between
the Scylla of self and
the Charybdis of terror.

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